MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1877.

Amusements To-day. Rowery Theatre-Notedy's Backter. Hondway Theatre—Motte Criefe,
Fifth Avenue Theatre—Parlo, the Italian Wife,
Fifth Avenue Hall—Problinghitton,
Calimore's tearder—Creus, Senager, and Colored Babyes
Grand Opera House—The Octorion. m Theatre La Reine Indies. Rew Park Theatre, Brooklyn-Zip. Chympio Theatre—Variety. Park Theatre—Gur American Cousia. Nan Francisco Minstrels—Brouway and 2016 ct.

Tivali Theatre—Variety. Union Nquare Theatre—The Mather's Secret. Wattack's Theatre—Wast Last. The regular circulation of THE SUN for the

Tony Pastor's Opera House-Variety

Total for the week ..

week ending Dec. 15, 1877, was:

## What Congress Has Done.

The first regular session of the Forty-fifth Congress began a fortnight ago to-day. On Saturday the two Houses adjourned for a vacation of between three or four weeks What has been accomplished?

In the way of public legislation very little, and that little too much for the credit of the Congress or the good of the country. A Deficiency bill has been passed by dint of vigorous log-rolling which squanders be tween a million and a million and a half of the people's money. One halfmillion item in this bill was so monstrous that a high official of the department to which it was to be voted said in so many words that the money was not needed, and that the department couldn't possibly spend more than half of it. But it was voted all the same. With a like disregard of the demands of the times and of the people, Congress has voted \$150,000 to defray the expenses of a misrepresentation of the United States at the approaching World's Fair in Paris-money worse than wasted. Of the other hills passed, the only ones of any public interest which we now recall are those for the burial of the Huron's dead at the Government's expense and fo the relief of the sufferers by that doubly eruel, because needless, disaster.

In the way of preparation for future legislation, more has been done and attempted. A great number of bills have been intro duced and referred, dealing with a wide range of interests-public, corporate, and individual. We may note among them several new ones relating to the Texas Pacific enterprise; one or two relating to the North ern Pacific; a bill for the creation of a postal savings bank system; and another for the issue of small Government bonds for popular investment. Several Senators have evinced a purpose to find out whether the Union Pacific Railroad Company cannot be made to obey the laws and live up to its agreements. The Silver Remonetization bill is before the Senate, and will come up again after the recess; possibly it might have been forced to a vote last week if it had not been crowded aside by Mr. STANLEY MAT-THEWS'S resolution asserting the legal and moral right of the Government to pay its debts in silver. This also goes over, and will be the unfinished business when Congress reassembles. It is probable that th Senate will postpone action on the bill for the repeal of the Resumption act until the eliver question is disposed of. The indications of the discussion and preliminary votes are that a majority of the Senators will vote for remonetization, and this majority may reach the two-thirds required to pass the

Thanks to Mr. CONKLING and Mr. HEWITT. has at last intervened to save the country from the consequences of Executive blundering-or worse-in the Rio Grande busi ness. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House and a special committee of the Senate, headed by Mr. Conkling, have been instructed to make a thorough investigation, and empowered to sit during the recess. If they have that sense of the imminence o the danger and the consequent urgency of their duty which we are fain to credit them with, they will be heard from, and heard from to purpose, when Congress reassembles.

Democratic dilatoriness, lukewarmness, or cowardice in the first place, and Republican filibustering in the second, are responsible for the fact that the GLOVER resolutionarming the House committees with fuil powers to investigate whatever may seem them to call for investigation in the executive departments-is still to be passed. Nearly a month has thus been wasted-in a case, too, where time is, literally, money.

Select committees of both branches have been charged with the duty of inquiring whether any improvement can be made on pur present-or rather our late-method of electing and installing Presidents and also whether any change should be made in the duration of the Presidential term. These reports will be awaited with more curiosity an hopefulness.

Mr. Kellogg of Louisiana having been seated by a party vote, the House followed Buit by seating Mr. PATTERSON of Colorado -a ROLAND for the Senate's OLIVER. But this is almost the only instance in which the Democrats in the present Congress have acted effectively together.

Indeed, the session will be memorable for the revival of party devotion and discipline on the Republican side of the chambers, and for the simultaneous demoralization and treachery on the other side. While Demoeratic Senators and Congressmen have been human lives in jeopardy intrusted to notoplaying the lackey at the White House and in the Capitol, the Republicans in Congress, under the magnetic leadership of ROSCOE CONKLING, have serried their ranks. They are now in better fighting trim than at any time since 1872.

The quality of their discipline was shown in the matter of the New York Custom House nominations. If Republican Senators have connived at such scandalous appointments as that of the self-seeking HARLAN to the Supreme Court and that of the bribe-taking BANCROFT DAVIS to the Court of Claims, let it be remembered to their credit that in the Custom House affair they tore the mask of reform from the face of personal government, and warned the | will not allow the galiant record of last win-Fraudulent President, Fraudulent Repub-White House that he had reached the end of against Hayes and Hayesism has been quickly perceived by Republicans through-

out the country; and as gladly welcomed. I men who cowered in tremor on the shore. The first fortnight of the session will also | and who shrank from the dangerous underbe memorable for its personal incidents. taking. From some cause our law makers have been unusually irritable and irritating. We need not stop to speak of such minor and insig-

another sort of affair. For a few hours expert noses were confident they smelt powder in the air. Fortunately, they were deceived. Explanations were exchanged; Messrs. HAM-LIN, RANSOM, HOWE, and McDonald carned the blessing pronounced upon the peace makers; and the journal of the Senate has been enriched by a very curious entry.

A pleasanter incident is the reconciliation of Senators Conkling and Blaine, after many years of estrangement. On Saturday we are told, they shook hands, sat down side by side, and had a confab. It is a conjunction of political planets that bodes no good to the Fraudulent Administration.

Troops are hastening to San Elizario, in western Texas, the scene of last Friday's fight of which we had news yesterday While HAYPS is thus actively stimulating the border troubles, and sustaining the salt monopolists who have raised the riots at

Unmasking Hayes's Mexican Plot.

San Elizario, the two committees appointed by Congress to look after his Rio Grande operations must promptly take hold of this important work, and exercise their power to prevent him from fraudulently plunging the country into war with Mexico. Already some remarkable disclosure

have been made by the Rio Grande commit tees. Documents have been rescued which Mr. Evants had carefully kept back, and important witnesses have freed their minds

on Hayes's Mexican conduct. We find Gen. SHERIDAN testifying that he did not advise issuing the order directing our troops to follow raiders into Mexico Now, the Department of Texas is not placed with the adjoining Department of the Gulf in the Division of the Atlantic, under HANcock, but in the Division of the Missouri, under Sheridan, to whom Gen. Ord make his reports, and from whom he takes instructions. Yet, in the important matter of invading Mexico, the War Department did not seek and did not have the Lieutenant-General's advice. It was no doubt resolved upon by Evarts, Hayes, and Mc CRARY-a trio whose machinations, were the subjectless serious, might be compared to the mysterious capers of the three conspirators in "La Fille de Madame Angot. Again, Sheridan expressed the opinion that there was no danger of war "unless by the accidental collision of American and Mexi can forces"-a chance whose extent h perfectly well understood, since the raiding of cavalry forces into Mexican territory constantly invites such accidents. SHERI-DAN was also understood to say that, be sides our regular invasions, there had been one raid of unofficial marauders from Texas into Mexico. Does he believe in the wisdom of allowing Mexicans to follow such marauders back across the river? Gen. SHERIDAN. in answer to an inquiry as to the policy of . having a neutral strip of territory on eac bank of the Rio Grande, into which Mexican and American troops may mutually pursue raiders, said that such a plan would produce war within two weeks. In other words, our people would make war rather than submit to a regularly authorized practice which HAYES, EVARTS, and McCRARY force, without authority, upon the Mexicans. Is it not clear, then, that the HAYES Cabinet is in-

triguing for war? The Congressional investigations have led o other disclosures. It has been found that the chief part of the so-called Mexican raids were Indian raids; yet HAYES's message will be searched in vain for any indication that the cattle thieving was done by roving Lipan or Mescallero Indians; he charges t on Mexican citizens. In the archives of the State Department one of the commit tees found official reports from Consul WILson of Matamoras, showing that not only was the border cattle stealing grossly exaggerated, but that it was largely the work of American cattle thieves; and of this fact. also, no mention is made in HAYES'S mes-

The committees have begun well, but they have much yet to do. They will find, and to recognize DIAZ, has also refused to repair the faulty extradition treaty, has refused cooperation with Mexico, on equal terms, in pursuing and punishing border thieves, and as substituted for a peaceful and honorable policy a scheme of violence and outrage evidently designed to plunge the country into war.

# Shall We Have Another Huron Disaster ?

We call attention to the exposure in another column of the disgraceful inefficiency which prevails at some of the most important life-saving stations in our immediate neighborhood. This is a matter which must be rectified at once, before the comnunity is shocked by a new and more harrowing catastrophe. The season of storm and shipwreck is upon us, and unless prompt measures are taken, that strip of Jersey coast which within a twelvemonth has witnessed the wreck of two ocean steamers, the Amerique and the Rusland, will be the scene of an appalling loss of life.

It is not enough to erect stations along the beach from Cape May to Sandy Hook, to provide them with boats and costly apparatus, and to assign a part of the public funds for a humane and noble purpose. The alaries paid must be earned by zeal and efficiency, the apparatus must be well and nimbly handled, the boats must be manned by bold and active crews. There is no lack of daring and self-sacrifice among the 'longshoremen of New Jersey; but it appears from the facts elsewhere recited that these qualities are at a discount under the present management of the life-saving service. No part of the North Atlantic coast is fraught with more danger to navigation than the section between Squan and Long Branch yet it is just here that merit is ignored, the most splendid proof of energy and courage contemptuously set aside, and the rescue of

rious weakness and incompetence. We commend the state of things at Sta tions 6 and 7 to the swift attention of the Board of Underwriters and of the Chamber of Commerce. It is a matter which touches nearly the great interests of which they are the recognized trustees. They cannot afford to have the deliverance of property and life committed to unskillful and laggard hands. They have a right to insist that the Su- out the State, was elected to the Senate in perintendent of a most important district 1876. The people of Sussex, like those shall be qualified by vocation and residence to fill the office, and that subordinates shall be picked out for the most redoubtable of duties with a single eye to their capacity and a hearty recognition of desert. They ter to be utterly set at naught. They will lican, and Fraudulent Reformer at the not permit the men who were the first to board the steamship Rusland, and who The significance of this revolt | risked their own lives with a light heart to save the crew of the Norwegian bark Riukam, to be thrust aside for the very

It is well understood that if the station near the scene of the wreck of the Huron had been manned with competent men, many nificant squabbles as that between little lives would have been saved. Shall the next EUGENE HALE and Colorado PATTERSON. European steamship which may be hurled But the CONBLING-GORDON episode was with its precious freight on the beach of referred to the Judiciary Committee, and pounded the query, "Can the Ethiopian Change

Monmouth county meet the doom of that unfortunate vessel, or the relatively happy fate of the Rusland and the Amerique? That s a question of vital concern to the whole country, and the answer must not be delaved. We want no sham inquiries like the farcical example of last winter, instituted to cover up the truth by the officials of the life-saying service, and which has resulted, as we see, in the displacement of brave men by the faint-hearted and incapable. The condition of the Jersey coast calls for quick and rigorous measures. Let the committee of the House of Representatives, charged t investigate the Huron disaster, be empow ered to enlarge the field of inquest. This is the proper and effectual course; and we commend it to the foreign steamship companies, to the Board of Underwriters and the Chamber of Commerce. They can fulfil a solemn duty, and relieve the community from the horror of an impending catas trophe, which otherwise can hardly be averted, by urging a prompt scrutiny of this business upon the national legislature.

### A Week's Bad Record.

The past week was a bad week for the un sound savings banks and insurance companies. It opened ominously. On Monday we got news of the appointment of a receiver for the German Savings Bank of Chicago; of the discovery that an Indiana cashier was a defaulter in the sum of \$50,000; and of a suit brought against the stockholders of a broken Iowa bank by indignant depositors who averred that only \$5,000 of available assets could be found to meet liabilities ag gregating \$1,000,000. In the middle of the week came the astounding news that the Newark Savings Institution, with \$12,000,000 of assets and \$10,800,000 of deposits was in trouble, had appealed to the courts, and was paying depositors or the present only 18 per cent. of their money. The week ended as it had begun On Saturday Receiver Best made public the fact that the affairs of the National Trust Company of this city had been mismanaged that there had been irregularities and violations of the charter, and that the company's assets had been impaired to the extent of \$700,000. On the same day, the New York public learned that the Oriental Savings Bank had put itself in the hands of the Attorney-General o be closed up; that a receiver had been appointed for the Brewers' and Maltsters Fire Insurance Company at its own request: that between one and two hundred depostors of the Long Island Savings Bank had consented to take eighty cents on the dollar, and had actually received forty cents; and that good Deacon BROAD WELL of Clairmont Savings Bank fame had been arrested on a bench warrant for perjury. He is now in the City Prison. where he has ex-President Case of the Security Life Insurance Company for a neighbor. These incidents, added to the developments of the LAMBERT trial, the arrest of the ex-eashier of the Reading Say ings Bank on a charge of embezziement. and other recent occurrences of a like nature, have made a deep impression on the public mind.

It is not a pleasant impression. In its first, immediate effects it is a very painful impression. These discoveries of institu tional rottenness are discouraging: they are fisquieting. They beget suspicion and distrust, shaking confidence, and slarming time dity. Yet, we repeat, the revelations astonishing and discreditable as some o them may be, are to be welcomed. It is better for the community that the fact disease discovered is not so dangerous as the disease unsuspected, eating its way in secret. Both the public morals and the pub lie pocket will gain by the disclosure of th

Take the case of the National Trust Company. It seemed to be, and was esteemed, a sound, safe institution. When street rumor, a fortnight or so since, began to whisper should report, that HAYES, while refusing | doubts as to its real condition, its Presiden promptly rushed into print with a card in which he affirmed that the company was as solid as granite-or words to that effectand denounced the street reports as wicked and malicious lies. He was able to refer to a report made by an examining committee of the trustees as late as Dec. 7, in which the company was described as solvent, with a clear surplus of \$30,000 over all liabilities. Yet it does not take Special Examiner (now Receiver) BEST very many hours to discover a \$700,000 hole in the company's assets. Mr BEST expresses the belief that many of the trustees didn't know; they were surprised and indignant when he told them. We dare say respectable trustees usually are in these cases. As the trustees are personally responsible, there is more ground than there otherwise would be for his professed confidence that depositors will ultimately lose nothing. That is one of the advantages of being a well-to-do man and depositing some of your spare money with a trust company, instead of being a poor man and putting your earnings in a savings bank. But we think it will be clear to every reader upon a very little reflection that the exposure of such a pretentious sham, insolvency passing itself off as soundness, is not a thing to b mourned over but to be rejoiced in. The fact is wholly deplorable, but the exposure is

#### wholly salutary. A Word to New Jersey Legislators. A little plain speaking may be good for the Democratic members of the New Jersey

Legislature. Just after the recent election it was very generally conceded that Senator LUDLOW of Middlesex county was the fittest man for President of the Senate. He is an able lawyer, well versed in parliamentary rules, courteous and dignified, and has kept through the onerous test of the State Committee a reputation for integrity. But he steemed the honor of the place too highly to be willing to descend to any petty arts to obtain it; and those of the New Jersey Senators who value the credit of the State, ought to see to it that her second civil office does not fall into the hands of

any less scrupulous man. Senator FRANK WARD of Sussex county. who is making a personal canvass throughof most of the rural districts of New Jersey, were strongly in favor of the reduction of the legal rate of interest to six per cent. Before he could get the nomination Mr. WARD had to pledge himself to introduce a bill for that purpose, and to press it as strongly as he could. did introduce such a bill at the following ession, made a speech in its favor, and had it referred to a committee which he controlled. A big insurance company that wants the rate of interest kept as it is, set its lobby agents at work, and it is said that they had pocketsful of money. A few weeks after the introduction of the bill, one of those agents visited the members of the Judiciary Committee, all of whom were well known to be opposed to the bill, and said:

we want you to let it sleep its last sleep." Senator WARD reported the bill precisely as the blg insurance company's agent had promised, and the Judiciary Committee gave it a quietus accordingly. Those of the New Jersey Senators who do not know it already, will now understand the motive of certain State officials who are canvassing for Mr. WARD; for it is a well-known fact that they are devoted adherents of the insurance company. If any Senators are honestly hesitating under the persuasions of these officials, let them inquire what Mr. WARD's reputation was as a member of the House, and they will find further evidence that a man who is false to his own county

is unfit to be trusted with larger interests. In the lower House there is even more danger that the chair may meet with unwor thy occupancy. MATTHEWS of Burlington and Eagan of Union, who now seem to be the leading candidates, are reputed to have been in a combination in the last Legislature to squeeze ail the bills that could be got at. If this is so, the old members must know it, and we have left the new members no excuse for not informing themselves. Of one thing the Democrats in the New

Jersey Legislature may be assured. Having experienced men of good reputation in both branches to choose from, if they put a jobbing politician in either chair, and a candal follows, as is almost certain to happen, the blame will not be upon him alone.

A good many people in this city are waitng to see what Mayor ELY will do with the Board of Police Commissioners.

The long contest in France has closed with the Republicans in control of the Government; and the negotiations for peace between Rus-

sia and Turkey have begun. Mr. Evants is reported to be in a melanholy state of mind since his nominations were cornfully rejected by the Senate. He begins to espair of the republic, and his confidence in ree government has been terribly shaken. All efforts to rouse him from this condition of sadess have thus far failed, and he broods over the defeat as one doomed to despair. makes the matter worse is, that HAYSS, EVARTS, Schurz, and the rest of them were absolutely confident of success. They had reasoned it out among themselves on logical principles, and counted noses by the differential calculus. It was but enough to be beaten, but to have their scientific theories overthrown, and their logic of the political situation despised, has inflicted a cruel wound which time can hardly heal. And then, on the back of all this suffering to have piled a committee which takes the Rexican question out of the hands of the Department of State, and converts the de facto Secretary into an unsatisfactory head clerk, was a refinement of torture well calculated to make a festive spirit like that of Mr. Evants droop into settled

Senators BLAINE and CONKLING appear to be in harmony of action on the civil service question, and the Mexican question, as well as on sundry minor questions. This bodes if for Hayesism. The nearest parallel to it in the ent politics of the country was the league of enators SUMNER and SCHURZ against Pres dent Grant-unquestionably a powerful league which dealt Grantism heavy blows, but far les mportant than the one we now see, inasmue as SCHURZ and SUMNER were theorists, while CONKLING and BLAINE are unsurpassed practi eal strategists.

The victims of fraudulent Texas land titles will be glad to learn that T. E. TULLIS, one guilty to forgery, and been sentenced to imprisonment for six years.

The ANTHONY-GARDNER-ROBESON Ring has been the devil-fish of Rhode Island. Its slims tentacles seized with viscid grasp a Providence water-works engine and the Charlestown Navy Yard steam hammer.

The project of a law to allow the retailing f liquors to travellers at all hours on Sunday carried out, would undoubtedly develop arge amount of it nerancy on the Sabbath day.

St. JEROME EDMUNDS is proud to believe that nobody suspects him of grooming for the Presidential sweepstakes in 1880.

Lawyer Evarts and Ancient Mariner PHOMISON work the patronage machine for atual benefit in a highly profitable way Evaluts gave Thompson the mission to Braz for one of Thompson's friends, because Thompson had given Evarts a berth in the Navy Department for one of Evarts's friends. Thu nese two worthies are able to share their patronage on the cooperative plan. CHURZ and SHERMAN, or DEVENS and McCRAR may be able to work in pairs on the same basis EVARTS and THOMPSON couldn't accommodate sch other more neatly if they were old politic hacks, instead of the eminent champions of

When Mayor THOMAS A. DOYLE of Providence sold himself to the ANTHONY-GARDNET Ring for the sake of retention in office, he made a bargain which may profit him for the present but which will surely result in his political ruin ANTHONY is as seifish as he is unscrupulous and when he is through with Doyle he wil throw him aside like a sucked orange.

The latest news from the Pope represents him better in health and as cheerful in mind a bedroom, and is just now eagerly interested in t for opening a new school. A corre a proj spondent in Rome reports that the fever has cone, that the asthma is not so bad as it was hat the Pope eats with a relish, that his gen eral condition has improved, and that the doctors alk more hopefully. "They want to hurry he said jokingly the other day, referring the Cardinals, who dread foreign interter ence in the choice of his successor, "but I am in no hurry to go."

The Count JOANNES, who is about to revive the legitimate drama in the Bowery The-atre, will doubtless fill the house. Some people aving read the autobiographical sketches in which he has set forth his intimate relation with other illustrious personages, many o them long since dead, will go to see howold

he is. A singular case of death from poisoning occurred yesterday on Oak street. A child, four years old, on Friday spent some pennies given it for eardy. The eardy was white, blue, and green. Soon after eating it the child was taken ick, and yesterday morning died. We ar sainfully startled that men should hold the ves of fellow creatures of so little consequenthat for the sake of making money they will place poisons in the market in the seductive

Public topics attracted the attention o everal preachers yesterday. The Rev. Mr MACARTHUR discoursed on "The Labor Ques tion." the Rev. Dr. SMITH on "The Turkis War," the Rev. Mr. HATFIELD on "The Excise Law," and the Rev. J. P. RYAN, C. S. P., on "The True Catholic, the True Freeman." In the dographical vein the Rev. Mr. Johns discussed the Rev. Mr. McCarty, "Solomon and Judas," and the Rev. Mr. STERLE, "Absalom, the Fast Young Man." The Rev. Mr. Colcord re-dissected "Mr. Frothingham." the Rev. Mr. Houon's theme was "Marriage," the Rev. Dr. CROOK'S, "The Dangers of Young Men," and the Rev. Mr. Newton's "Women in Society." Rev. Dr. TIFFANY descanted on "The Refuge of Lies," and the Rev. Mr. MUIR on " Making God FRANK WARD is going to report that Six White Stone," and the Rev. Mr. JUTTEN of per Cent. bill to-morrow and ask that it be "Naboth's Vineyard."

his Skin?" the Rev. Mr. ROSSITER asked. "Is Belief in Christ Madness ?" and the Row. Dr. TYNG, Jr., showed " How to Repair the Breaches in a Broken Character.

The most powerful and influential editor in Paris, EMILE DE GIRARDIN of La France. was yesterday elected to the Chamber of Depu Since May last, the veteran editor has with extraordinary ability, pertinacity, and courage, waged war against the ley of MacManon. His blows, delivered day after day, have been crushing; and neither the Mar shal, nor the Ministry, nor the Benate could stand against them. He has carried the day, and he takes his place among the Republican Deputies, just as MACMARON adopts a new policy and accepts a Republican Cabinet.

### THE FAILURE OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 .- The Forty-fifth Congress, after sitting exactly two months, took to-day a recess of four weeks. The Democratic embers of the lower chamber have had this time in which to make good the professions of economy, retrenchment and reform under which they were elected. As the organized majority of the House, they have had to make good this additional pledge put forward by Speaker Randail at the opening of the session. He said:

I assume we will take no step backward in the work of retrenchment and reform so auspiciously begun by the last flows under a natured and definite plan of reduction in the expenditures of the Government. It is occasin still greater reductions can be made without impairing the efficiency of administration. \* \* When the iron rule of hard necessity darkens every household in the land extrawarance on the part of the people's servants is an unpardonable crime.

The Democratic majority of the Porty-fifth Congress has, during the first sixty days of its rganized existence, passed bills which compare with the corresponding bills of the first session

of the last Democratic House, as follows: 45th Guerran Total \$28,806,338 omparative excess Porty fluit Con-\$30,521,719 86 \$1,626,381 86 Add Paris Exposition bill...... \$1,776,38M 86 Total .....

If the comparison is made between the Army oilt, as passed by the House at its last session. and its Defeiency bills, the sum will be found to be \$6,130,869,33 less than the Army bill and the Deficiency bills passed during the last sixty days. The total Deficiency bills of the last Congress were, in two years, \$5,307,128.62; the Deleiency bills already passed in two months by the Forty-fifth Congress are \$4,859,219.86. These things ought not so to be. If the House

proceeds as it has begun it will be the first American chamber which, in peace, has so dealt with the people's money as to bring the people's Treasury to a defleit. Nor is this all.

The army had existed for four months, contrary to the Constitution, to the laws, and to this time illegal contracts had been made. Ev idence was brought before the House that ille gal recruiting had been carried on. The House made appropriation for these contracts as they were made-for the army as it stood, without inquiry, \$25,662.500.

The records showed that while the Forty-second Congress had appropriated \$12,500,000 to the pay of the navy, and while the Forty-third Congress had appropriated \$12,750,000 to the pay of the navy, the Forty-fourth Congress bac appropriated \$13,350,000. Common report said at the excess of this lavish sum had been spent upon contracts fraudulently made, fraud port of the Secretary of the Navy did not deny these reports. It admitted that diversion of public money which the public law declares to be criminal, and upon this admission asked a defleiency appropriation.

The House made appropriation for this deficiency as reported, filled the gap torn by these The wrong done to officers and men of the army deprived of their pay by the illegal act o their Commander-in-Chief was left of the navy deprived of their pay by the illegal and criminal acts of the Secretary of the Navy

was left unredressed. Again the Committee on Appropriations and the House decided to appropriate \$1,549,608.25 r miscellaneous appropriations. To this the nate added \$1,139,542.55, and the House ac ented of these amendments \$1,070,037.62.

Of this sum one-fourth, \$250,000 for star routes, the responsible officers of the Post Office Department had decided could not be used, and ts head, the Postmaster-General, had declared another fourth, \$250,000, for the same purpose unnecessary, and yet the House yielded to the extravagance of the Senate and gave it.

Of this sum, \$13,559.50, for John Sherman's decided to be an illegal expenditure, and yet the House yielded to the extravagance of the Senate

In relation to more than one-half the renainder of this Senate increase, \$375,000 to the State. War and Navy building, the House and its Committee on Appropriations had decided the sum must be appropriated in the regular Appropriation bill, and yet the House vielded to the extravagance of the Senate and gave it.

Besides these reasons for inquiry before the appropriation of these sums, the House and its Committee of Ways and Means has refused to enter upon careful investigation before proceeding to the appropriation bills for the ensuing year. A resolution providing for such inquiry into the past conduct and present condition of every department of the Government was introduced into the House Nov. 14 by Mr. Glover of Missouri. It was no new experiment. Such a resolution had been the basis of the suc-cessful investigations of the last House, which convicted a Cabinet-Minister in sixty days and elected a Democratic President. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. It remained there one month. The urgent remenstrances of one or two members of the committee at last roused the chairman Mr. Fernando Wood, to a report. He made the report yesterday, at a time which made its pas sage improbable if not impossible. By making the report then the opportunity for investigation during the recess has been lost.

In the management of its own domestic affairs. the House has been not less careful to avoid unpleasant inquiry, and not less ready to vote appropriations to meet questionable, if not riminal defleiencies. Contrary to law, the Doorkeeper appointed men he had no right to appoint. For a like offence a Doorkeeper was once removed. For a less offence the last House pitched its Doorkeeper out of his seat. This House to-day appropriated more than \$4,000 to cloak and cover the illegal acts of its officer, and

meet the obligations he had incurred at the so-licitation of its members. Said Mr. Randall at the close of the last session of the Forty-fourth Congress: Fraud and corruntion have been exposed and made orions, the extenditures of administration have been nonmously reduced, he new base-have been leved and every description of undue appropriation of the public money has been prevented. In this resard this House has met the public demand and expectation.

In no regard here mentioned has the present House" met the public demand and expecta-

From the Sanday Democrat. One of the most common manifestations of inidelity is the false scenrity with which uncleivers hug their conscience to sleep by hinking, or rather trying to persuade themselves that there is no such place as helb. We thinking, or rather trying to persuade themselves, that there is no such place as hell. We are glad to see that The SVn is trying to shed is brillant rays on the dismal abodes of the damned by urging Congregational preachers to speak more frequently on the subject of the eternal punishment of sin.

If the true doctrine on this subject were set forth in both pulpit and press, we would hear of fewer suicides and murders and robberies.

As near as we can learn, hell is a burning furnace—a cavern of fire—a lake of brimstone and pitch—an inextinguishable fire with which the wicked will be penetrated, and as if salted, according to an emphatic expression employed by one of the prophets and repeated by Jesus Christ Himself.

In the abodes of the lest nothing will be heard but groaning and wheping and grashing of teeth; there the reprobate will be eternally separated from God and abandoned to regrets and remorse.

MACKAYE'S DEFENCE.

The Author of the New American Play Ex-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A letter appears in THE SUN to-day, attacking the mo rality of my comedy drama, "Won at Last," reently produced at Wallack's. In fairness me. I am sure you will grant me space to reply. The points made against the play are as fol-

1. It is claimed that the play is immoral because its interest is made to turn upon the facant the hero and heroine are man and wifeonly in name

2. Because Miss Du Sould acts the part of the French adventuress with such seductive fidelity to nature.

3. Because the play glorifles suicide. This is not the order of the points as made in he letter, but it is the just order of their imortance in their bearing upon the play.

In reply to the first point, I must confess that and peroine have become bound by social law wife discovers the profoundest moral reasons for separation from her husband, viz., her

for separation from her husband, viz., her harror of a loveless marriage."

To any but the most impure mind it seems to me the statement of this fact is reply enough.

As regards the second point—if, as I believe, the intent of the whole play is truly moral—then the more perfectly Mss Du Souid portrays the character the better—and certainly all who have seen her must admit that her rendering of the dangerously fascinating French woman is something unique upon the stage.

The charge that my play glorifles suicide is equally unfounded.

The temptation to suicide consists in seeking it as an escape from suffering—its cowardice lies in shirking the consequences of one's own act, or in succumbing under the load of life's discipline.

John Fleming's first attempt at suicide in the John Fleming's first attempt at suicide in the play is one of total self-abnegation—the motive is pure, for it is done to free, a woman he feels he has wronged from the repulsive fetters of a marriage with himself. This act of his is a glorifleation not of suicide, but of the love that ennobles both life and death.

The second attempt at suicide is made when John Fleming is in the agony of revolt at the supposed heartiesness of the woman he loves; this supposit in goading him to the commission of a deed which the play distinctly denounces through the wife.

soon of a deed which the play distinctly de-nounces through the wife.

As the writer of this letter claims that my play may be detrimental in its influence over the young men and women who form the large ma-jority of a theatrical audience, I think I may justly claim the right to state my true intent, as a defence against this uncalled-for assertion.

The aim of my play is not to preach mere pictetic morality, nor goody-goody-ism; but to trent of real life in society to-day, as thousands know it, in such a way as to throw a clearer light upon that morality of nature which under-lies and overrules the highest civilization and

know it, in such a way as to throw a clearer light upon that morality of nature which underlies and overrules the highest civilization and the grandest development of mankind.

The corner stone of human happiness is the marital relation. When that becomes vitiated by pernicious notions, then the race and the society that springs from that relation become corrupt and degraded.

There are two classes of thinkers who endanger the purity of this relation to-day:

First—These who would make marriage a mere means of worldly or social advantage.

Second—Those who would discard its sacred ites altogether and make the relation of the sexes promiscuous and capricious.

Against both of these classes the story of the play is aimed. A young American has been educated abroad in the midst of the effete society of the Old World. His experience of life has stifled his naturally manly heart, and at the cately of the Old World. His experience of life has stiffed his naturally manly heart, and at the opening of the play we find him a fascinating man, with a valorous record, cynical and worldly in his notions, and the husband of a young woman who has judged him "out of the innocent ignorance of her own pure heart," and clothed him in the glorious garments of her own ideal.

This man is placed between two distinct types

This man is placed between two distinct types of woman, viz.: Those who charm the senses and those who cannoble and inspire the souls of men. The play shows that the first type tends to wreck manhood, while the second redeems and exalts it.

The purpose of the play is to show how a brave man, whose experience with the world has turned his heart to ashes, may be redeemed from his living death by the grand character of a true woman—"one whose instincts are so pure that the mere thought of vice is revolting—one whose heart is so holy that it keeps head and hands busy with good works."

The play endeavors to demonstrate the fact that the only safe and worthy basis of marriage is a mutual love and reverence between man and wite.

and wife.

We shall never have a truly noble humanity until a nobler love dominates the marital relation and the generation of the race.

This play is a plea for this kind of love. How, then, can its influence over the coming parents then, can its influence over the coming parents of the race be in any way pernicious?

There is no subject upon which our young men and women need enlightenment so much as this; for their ideals of manhood and womanhood are most confused, their sense of the prave responsibilities of marriage to future posterity most dangerously superficial.

As marriage makes or unmakes both the individual and the universal man, it seems quite time that art should join hands with science and, treating this subject with the carnestness it de-

New YORK, Dec. 15.

Is Childs the Author of this Poem ! TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Pray ran you kindly tell us whether the celebrated Washington Childs, A. M., of Philadelphia is or is not the

Go, bury Bartholomew out in the woods, In a teautiful hole in the ground, Where the woodbecker sings and the bumblebees buzz. And the straddle bugs tumble around.

And when in the winter the snow has made white. The last resing place of the dead. His brother Ariemus can go out with Jane. And visit the place with their sied. All is true I have never seen these verses with the signature of Mr Childs, nor have I read them in the pages of its Philadelphia Leiger-to which I am a regular subject to the page of the perty, and it

scribes and from the character of meaning that it must really have sprang from the heart and pen of Philameter and the pen of the comment of the pen of the sprang from the heart and pen of Philameter and the sprang from the heart and pen of Philameter sprang subject and I appeal to Mr. Childs himself to put an end to all touchs by trainily contessing his authorship. When Sir Walter Seeff was found out, he owned up that he was the author of "Waverley," Yours, respectively, he was the author of "Waverley," Yours, respectively. We agree with the view of our correspondent. and share his opinion, that Mr. Childs is most

of the lines differs from another, which is likewise treasured by many hearts, as Mr. Childs's poems are wont to be. This various reading is as follows: And when in the winter the snow and sleet Have covered his cold little bed-We suggest that our correspondent would do well to write to Mr. Childs, and ascertain which of the two is really the correct reading; and when he gets his answer let him send it to THE

Sun, which shines for all. Mr. Archbold's Side of the Story.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A card hav-

To the Editor of The Sux-Soft A card thyic appeared in your columns purporting to emanate
om the pen of the Rey, Alfred Young, cautioning the
ablic scalarst paying any money to me, I would ask
nough of your valuable space to make the following exlauation. Some time ago, at the request of one of the
adjas of Father Young's concreation, I offered my serices to Father Young as add or and manager of a paper
to be published at his tair. My services were tendered
frat alonsly, but Father Young close rather to make the
ellowing amounter me at The paper was to be managed,
regulated by no one but mys it, payment for my ser-

#### Strikers and Corporations. From the Kannas City Times.

The poor and starving strikers got a deal of

SUNBELLIS.

-Europe expended for telegraphic mes

-The military telegraph line around the xas frontier to Et Paso and up to Misaia, New Mexico.

-The crush to hear Moody and Sankey

was so great in Providence that a horse car was crowded off the track, and clothing was ruined. The City of Peking, on her last voyage,

brought 100 packages of silk worm eggs from Japan to San Francisco, consigned to a firm in Italy. -The Congregational Church of Walcott decided that the use of wine at the communica labels tends to promote intemperance. Water is hereafter to be

By the new route from Portpatrick to

Stranger the sea passage 'twixt England and sections' s but twenty-two uniles, and Belfast is within nine beare Of forty-three varieties of apples tosted

by M. Fruelle, of the Chemical Society of Paris, the red American renette was found to contain the largest -A Scotchman has proposed that every-

body who drinks alcoholic figuors should be compelled to take out a license. This, at \$5 ahead a year would raise a very pretty revenue. -Leading citizens of Nevada want the oundary line of California and Nevada fixed at the sun

mit of the Sierras, so that their State can have Surprise

-A woman fifty-nine years old, with her son, arrived in La Granze, Oregon, recently naving walked thither from her home in Indiana. She carred

-The London Gardeners' Chronick Mays that a bunch of grapes from Lady Charlevilles, Kings county, Ireland, 24 feet long and 29 pounds 5 on sees in weight, is the heaviest ever grown.

Three workmen were in a Pittsburgh sewer when a sudden and heavy shower felt. The water poured in upon them so fast that they were carried a dis-tance of several blocks, and nearly drowned.

-The Bank of Russia is supposed to held metallic reserve of \$125,000,000, to be touched only as last resource; but now instructions are thrown out the -Belief in the existence of a subterranean

lake near Newburyport, Mass, led to the unkied of a well. Clear water was found at a depth of fity feet, in such quantities that there is talk of supplying the city -A committee of country schoolbove visited Edwin Booth in Utica for the purpose of engaging him to act in their exhibition. Their idea was to appear

themselves in "Hamlet," with Mr. Booth in the role. They offered him \$20 and expenses -The young women of Orion, Mich., baye adopted the fashion of wearing their hair cropped close. They look odd, especially when their smooth heads are gathered in church; but they are gainers in pocket

-A clergyman in Madisonville, Ky., was annoyed white preaching by giggling girls. He reproved them sharply, and said that they were "outrageously wicked." That offended the girls parents, and about

-In order to prevent mistake and frand. Exhibition next year will be required to carry his photo graph. The ordinary ticket will cust one franc, and will have to be procured beforehand at post offices, railread -The Worcester Press notices that the haby shows have fixed the line that separates the ordi-nary father from the extraordinary one. The mether at-ways accompanies the cherub, whether there be one or

fore of him; but nothing short of triplets brings out the -In the Forest Hill Cemetery, near Boston, two does, having burrowed under the fence, killed in the night \$400 worth of imported swans, goese and ducks.
Only one escaped. The birds were from Australia. The

logs were killed by the keeper and their owner threakens to sue the corporation for damages. -For some years past the great garrison and naval towns of England have been placed under the operation of what is called the Contagnous Diseases act, and the result has been that the number of men in the

army incapacitated by disease fell in such places from 76 per 1,000 in 1867 ts 29 per 1,000 in 1875. -Schoolboys usually doubt the text books' statement that a tailow candle shot from a gun would go rough a heard. Mr. Blondell is convinced on that point. A blank cartridge was fired at him, and some tallow the

had adhered to the charge passed through his ness -The revivalists are having a busy season. Moody and Sankey are awakening interest in Providence. Needham and Cato are devoting particular attention to children in Newport. Whittle and McGranaham claim 300 converts in Rutland, and have just gow to Lawrence. Earle and Hodges are stirring up the sin

-Speaking at Cardiff, Wales, lately, Lord Abordare, formerly a police magistrate in the centre of the Welsh mining district, and atterward Secretary of State for the Home Department, said that he had not

treating finis subject with the carnestness it deserves, seek through the medium of entertainment to instil into the youth of to-day a fine sense of marital love.

This I have honestly endeavored to do, and it seems strange now that this cry of immorality should be raised against a play written and performed in this spirit.

J. Steele Mackaye.

The largest bell in the world is in the temple of Clars, in Rioto, Japan. Unlike the great sells in Pekin and Moscow it is whole, and its tone is as perfect. temple of Clars, in Kioto, Japan. Utilike the great fells in Pekin and Moscow it is whole, and its tone is as perfect and as sweet as when first suspended. Where and by characters completely cover it; but they are not trans-latable by Japanese scholars. It is 24 feet but and id-inches thick at the rim. It has no clapper, but is though

by a sort of wooden battering rat - The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, after a visit to Boston, writes about the churches of that city Mesays that many of them are burdened with heavy achts, and that the number is far greater than the aced. Edward Everett Hale's congregation is small and so the creasing. Starr King's old chapet is no longer crowded.

James Freeman Clarke has transferred his evening services to a half. A firendack Murray's work, "judged by the ordinary standards applied to churches and pulpits, is a failure, and he has little or no church."

-Girard College has been enlarged so as to accommodate 600 students and is now open to not residents of Pennsylvania. Harvord's requirement to admission of only three languages is criticised by Baston newspapers as too low a standard. Yale has just re-ceived from Frederick W. Stevens of this cuty a sitted New Haven property—Phillips Academy at Andorer, Mass, will have a poem read by Oliver Wendell Hobace on the near occasion of its centernial anniversary. Sevprobably the composer of the poem in question.

Its imagination, its sentiments, and its versification are all such as we have learned to recognize in the productions of this popular and benevolent peet. But we call our accordance of the popular and benevolent peet. But we call our accordance of the popular and benevolent peet. But we call our accordance of the popular and benevolent peet. But we call our accordance of the popular and benevolent peet. But we call our accordance of the poem of the poem of the poem in question.

Its imagination, its sentiments, and its versification of the center of the poem in question.

Its imagination, its sentiments, and its versification of the center of the poem of th benevolent poet. But we call our correspond | tence. Cornell has a Stodents Guild for the aid of the

> -A correspondent describes the inhabitauts of the Pittey Woods, in eastern Mississippi the man-lean, tana, long necked, long hoired, and days, the woman tall, daxen haired, and innocent of erincine, young couples begin life in a log cabin, with one bed, a young coupes begin aftern a log casan, with one look, to we chickens, an axe, a ride, and an acre of ground fits cattle need upon the uplaned growth in summer, and upon green came in winter. His ride turnishes meat look from the weathern with the cattle way and six or seven too in another than the cattle way and six or seven too in another than the cattle way and six or seven too in another than the cattle way. views are summed up to 1 is someone. "Treeker them

- In his brief but very interesting autobi-

120 years ago, under date New York, Oct. 20. "The bootstirling, who has been at very great expense in the Swedish from his lately sunflavor to us some cor-English burs a and marcs, by which we bel-breed will be greatly mended. We hear that his his lands are already proparing to receive their as have reason to have that in a few years we shall whether this control can supply itself with wine or preasures and principle in all around. But little is said of the points arthous high frond and road middle in georgarations of Peinsyls ama, which formed a middle in 1873 and put up the price of coal from \$1.55 to \$3 in 1877. It is very improper and in which immorated to he leaver to combine together to secure living wages, but extremely moral and prince worthly foregathlists to combine to double the price of one of all the absolute necessities of workingmen.

For all lung troubles, as well as complaints of the throat Dr. Jay ne's Expectorant is certainly a palmative and often a currently cast the festiment of the five and often a currently cast the festiment of the five and often a currently cast the festiment of the five and often a currently cast the festiment of the five and of accounts. It the American wind manufacturer we in claim at this indeed to a complaint and its world-wate reputation attent. For coughs of colors no surer of more effective remedy can be found.

After the points with which and with the less price country that notive that not with white or can supply used with white which can supply a solid with white or can supply about with white or

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